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SOURCE Newspapers as indicated.

PRAGUE SAMPLE FAIR REVEALS CZECH ECONOMIC CONDITIONS;  
FIVE-YEAR PLAN ENCOUNTERING DIFFICULTIES

TRADE FAIR SHOWS PROGRESS -- Neue Zuercher Zeitung, 14 Jun 51

The 1951 Prague Sample Fair, like that of 1950, can no longer count on the influx of international retail buyers to create new markets for Czechoslovakia. This fair depends rather upon the achievements of the last 3 years, by which all foreign trade has been placed in the hands of state corporations.

The Czechoslovak foreign trade corporations exhibit in the Fair Palace. The nationalized economy, including industry, internal trade, and agriculture have at the adjoining fairgrounds a large display for the working masses to see. The number of visitors to the fair is given as approximately 1,500,000, of which a considerable number are school children receiving visual instruction.

The fair includes a full-scale model of a modern coal mine, and an assembly line for heavy tractors, recently decorated shock workers demonstrating their machines and working methods, skillful female workers, and plenty of refreshments for the many visitors.

The participation of the Soviet Union and of the People's Democracies, including the German Democratic Republic, lends the fair an international character. Only a few western firms are represented. The public was attracted by the first display from Communist China which sought to represent the new struggles of the Chinese on the road to socialism.

The new Center for Research and Technical Development has prepared an exhibit on the work of finding replacements for imported raw materials. The effort, which factories and laboratories have made toward reducing consumption of nonferrous metals was especially interesting.

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STATE OFFICIALS ASSIGNED MANUAL LABOR -- Buenos Aires, Argentinisches Tageblatt,  
4 Jul 51

The Arbeiter-Zeitung, organ of the Austrian Socialist Party, reports that approximately 77,500 state employees and officials in Czechoslovakia have been assigned to manual labor to make possible the completion of the Five-Year Plan. The newspaper article also points up the existence in Czechoslovakia of a severe shortage of raw materials, as well as of meat, fats, and other foods.

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